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50X1

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CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT

TOPIC Activity in Peenemuende Area 50X1-HUM

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 7 April 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

50X1-HUM

DISSEMINATE ONLY AS APPROVED BY ORIGINATOR DO NOT CIRCULATE

1. information on the Peenemuende area and airfield

a. On 1 July 1949 reconditioning work was started at the field . On 17 August 1949 the Usedom Peninsula was blocked near Karlshagen. Peenemuende and Karlshagen are to be evacuated by local residents after the harvest . 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

b. On 16 August 1949 no air unit was stationed at the field although the landing field was serviceable. The destroyed buildings at the airfield and the V-weapons plant were being dismantled . 50X1-HUM

c. On 28 August 1949 the field was being reconditioned, and was occupied by about 100 fighters . 50X1-HUM

d. On 29 August 1949 the field was occupied by 80 to 100 fighters, according to local residents. About 1,500 German laborers did dismantling work on destroyed buildings . 50X1-HUM

e. On 2 September 1949 the entire airfield was blocked and occupied by fighters. Truck shipments have arrived since 15 August 1949. Karlshagen was evacuated by civilians . 50X1-HUM

f. On 5 September 1949 the field was cordoned off by police. Three stone cantonment buildings were being constructed on the southern edge of the field . 50X1-HUM

g. Between 20 August and 1 September 1949 air force units from Doeberitz arrived 50X1-HUM
The bridge near Wolgast is to be reconditioned by 1 January 1950 . 50X1-HUM

h. Between 26 and 28 September 1949 the Usedom Peninsula was blocked near Karlshagen. Thirty-four new cantonment

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buildings for about 5,000 men were under construction in the restricted area. The landing field was serviceable but the hangars and quarters were destroyed. German laborers did grading work at the landing field. [redacted] 800 air force soldiers were quartered in tents on the edge of the field. The fuel containers were being repaired. Forty-two fighters were parked on the western edge of the landing field [redacted]. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

i. On 10 October 1949 Peenemuende was occupied by 6,000 to 7,000 air force troops [redacted] 50X1-HUM [redacted] Fighters were stationed at the field. 50X1-HUM Karlshagen was evacuated by civilians [redacted]. 50X1-HUM

j. Between 10 and 21 October 1949 the field was occupied by about 60 fighters. A fuel dump of five containers with a capacity of 150,000 to 200,000 liters was about 1,000 meters east of the field. Near the destroyed hangars were 4 cantonment buildings which were under construction and 12 completed cantonment buildings which were occupied by soldiers previously quartered in Karlshagen [redacted]. 50X1-HUM

k. Between 30 October and 11 November 1949 about 60 fighters were stationed at the field. Two radio trucks were seen in the restricted area. The V-weapons plant was destroyed [redacted]. 50X1-HUM

l. On 20 November 1949 about 100 fighters were stationed at the field and 14 new cantonment buildings were built [redacted]. 50X1-HUM

m. Between 17 November and 1 December 1949 at least 60 fighters were seen at the field. [redacted] 50X1-HUM [redacted] the airfield was being prepared for occupation by jet aircraft. Soviet personnel were no longer quartered in tents but in the completed cantonment buildings. 50X1-HUM Another fuel storage (9 large containers) was built about 1,000 meters west of the destroyed V-weapons plant [redacted] 50X1-HUM

n. On 10 January 1950 Peenemuende and Karlshagen were evacuated by the civilian population. Ten cantonment buildings for about 5,000 men were built at the airfield. The field was occupied by fighters [redacted]. 50X1-HUM

o. Between 9 and 13 February 1950 the access from Wolgast to the Usedom Peninsula was no longer blocked. An improvised airfield was newly constructed in the restricted area between Trassenheide and Peenemuende. AAA practices were held every Thursday night. At night the shore was spotted by searchlights [redacted]. 50X1-HUM

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2. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

a. Reconditioning work at the airfield started in July 1949.

b. The Usedom Peninsula was blocked near Karlshagen.

c. The landing field was graded, cantonment buildings and fuel storages were built and the destroyed buildings were dismantled.

d. Air force units from Loeberitz arrived in mid-August 1949. (According to the number of aircraft observed [redacted] 50X1-HUM two fighter regiments, ground units and a division headquarters are now stationed there.)

e. The Soviet personnel were first quartered in Karlshagen and in tents within the restricted area and later in the completed cantonment buildings.

f. There were no indications that the V-weapons plant was scheduled for reconstruction.

g. The access to the peninsula from Wolgast was no longer blocked [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted]

4. The blocking of the peninsula near Karlshagen and the evacuation of the western section of the peninsula probably represent routine measures. It has been observed at almost all airfields in the Soviet Zone of Germany that the roads leading directly along the airfields are blocked by the Soviets. Construction work or an imminent change in the occupation of the fields, as observed in Peenemuende for instance, are probably the principal reasons for such measures. The peninsula was cordoned off near Karlshagen probably because this is the narrowest place in the western section of the peninsula, thus requiring only few guard personnel. The evacuation by the German population of the localities within the restricted area was probably due to two reasons:

a. Quarters for Soviet units expected in Peenemuende had to be provided (all quarters at the airfield were destroyed).

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b. Security measures against espionage had to be taken. (Elimination of contact between Soviet soldiers and the German population).

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